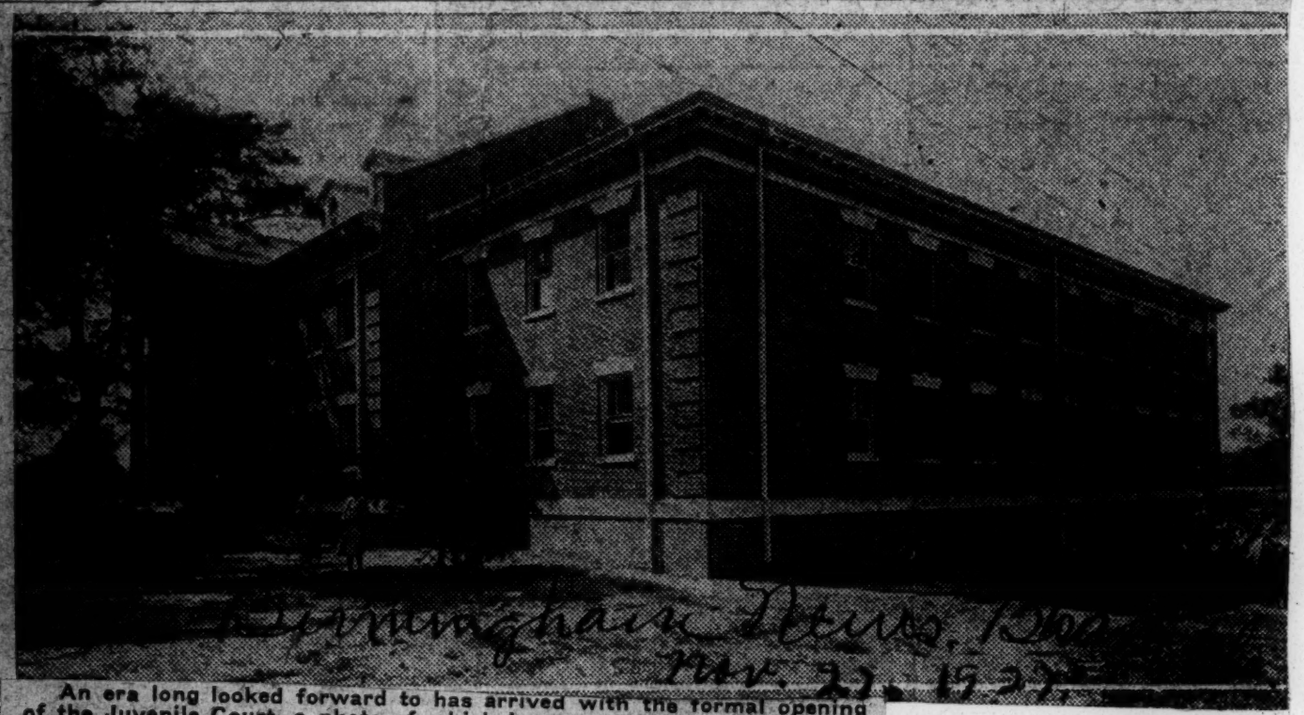
Juvenile Delinquency - 1927

Alabama.

HANDSOME NEW JUVENILE COURT BUILDING OPEN FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION ON DEC. 1



Birmingham Ledger, Nov. 27, 1927

An era long looked forward to has arrived with the formal opening of the Juvenile Court, a photo of which is seen above, at 200 Eubanks Street, West End. The structure is centrally located, so it can be reached from all sections of the county. Judge S. D. Murphy, whose photo is shown, has capably handled the Court of Social Relations for many years, and has been an active social worker with Alabama as his territory.

Juvenile Delinquency - 1927

Alabama.

Committee Favors Delinquent Negro Girl Home Bill

The house committee on eleemosenary institutions on Friday agreed to make a favorable report on the bill introduced by Representative Sanderson, of Montgomery, providing for the establishment of a rescue home for delinquent negro girls of the state.

The bill provides for a board of control of the institution to consist of seven members, the governor being ex-officio a member of it.

The bill provides for an appropriation of $8,000 for buildings.

After discussing the provisions of the bill, which Mr. Sanderson says he offered at the urgent request of a number of prominent workers of the state, the committee decided to amend it by placing three negro women on the board of control, the belief prevailing among the committee members that such an institution could accomplish more satisfactory work and perhaps secure better support and cooperation from the colored people if three of the board of directors are selected from among the best element of the negro race.

The committee will make a favorable report on the bill next Tuesday and it will then be placed on the calendar of the house for final vote at later date.

Jasper Ala
Eagle
Jan 31 1927

MEASURE MEETS PROTEST HERE

Proposal to Place Negroes on Board of Control of State Institution Declared to Be Unwise

Opposition to a proposed amendment to the bill of Representative Lew Sanderson of Montgomery county for a state home for delinquent Negro girls, which amendment would place three Negro women on the governing board of the institution, was voiced locally today by several parties.

City Councilman H. H. Hall addressed letters to Representative Sanderson and representatives and senators of Houston, Dale and Henry counties in the state legislature protesting against the amendment proposing to place Negroes on the governing board of a state institution. Mr. Hall's letter follows:

"I read with much interest the account of the bill introduced under the caption 'Delinquent Negro Girl Home bill.'

"No doubt, an institution of this sort could accomplish much good for the Negro race, properly managed. But rather than for three Negroes to be placed on the 'board of control' of this or any other state institution, such piece of legislation should be torn into shreds and these shreds scattered to the four intersecting streets of Court square.

"I am a Southerner and believe in the same fair protection to the Negro as inculcated by our forefathers. But too, like them, I am unwilling to relegate a personnel power of this great commonwealth of white supremacy to the Negro—a good servant, but not of state-governing ability for this great, old Alabama.

"When this bill comes up Tuesday for consideration of placing Negroes on the governing board of this proposed institution, I trust Alabama will uphold the record of white control."

It is the nature of things for one who has failed in a littel job to believe he was cut out for bigger things.—Marcus O'Ralius in Motor Chat.

MONTSVILLE, ALA.

Jour

FEB 22 1927

MRS. JAS. H. McCOY URGES HELP FOR WAYWARD NEGRO GIRLS

Mrs. Jas. H. McCoy, formerly Miss Mary Moore of this city and now president of Athens Female College heartily endorses the recent editorial under the caption "A Sanctuary for Wayward Negro Girls is Planned by Legislature" as carried by the Birmingham News which had this to say on the subject:

On Thursday there was introduced in the Alabama Legislature a bill that would provide a state institution for delinquent negro girls. It should be enacted forthwith. It is but common justice to that great cross-section of Alabama life for which such provision has never been made.

Alabama has provided such institutions for the delinquent white boy, the delinquent white girl and the delinquent negro boy, but has done absolutely nothing for delinquent negro girls. And this vital provision should be made, not only in simple justice, but as a safeguard to the social state. Judge Samuel D. Murphy, a practical sociologist and profound student of the wayward youth of Alabama, recently declared that the greatest menace to any community is a wayward negro girl. She is preyed upon not only by her own race but by the white race as well. When these unfortunate and ignorant girls come before the Juvenile court they are tried, sentenced, kept in confinement for a short time and then, because of the long waiting list, they are turned out again to prey and to be preyed upon. Fortunately, however, the Alabama Legislature has been seen the light, as the legislatures of Virginia and Tennessee have seen it, and is about to establish a home for these wayward and delinquent youths.

This bill should be enacted. The money spent in the erection and maintenance of such a sanctuary where the unfortunate girls may be taught useful home arts and economies, would be simply social insurance. It would solve the problem of the criminal and ignorant negro girl and be a protection for the whole social fabric.

Juvenile Delinquency - 1927

General.

LEGISLATION FOR NEGRO YOUTH FAILS IN DEMOCRATIC STATES

WASHINGTON, June 4—Bills relating to juvenile delinquents, juvenile courts, detention homes, industrial schools and offenses against children were introduced in a number of states at their 1927 legislative sessions, but with the exception of Texas, which approved a juvenile training school for Negroes, all welfare legislation affecting Negro youth has consistently failed in the strong Democratic States. In the northern States of course where segregation does not exist the welfare legislation enacted it equally applicable to both races.

In Alabama a bill to provide a State training school for colored delinquent girls was introduced and reported favorably by the committee, but will not be taken from the calender to be acted upon until the summer session.

Arizona authorized the establishment of a State school for delinquent girls, but FAILED to pass a bill to establish an industrial school for colored children.

Missouri passed a bill reserving the Missouri reformatory for boys under 21 (formerly men up to 30 were admitted;) but a bill to establish a State reformatory for Negro boys under 18 failed.

Juvenile Delinquency - 1927

Georgia.

MACON
GA.
ISSUE OF

Juvenile Detention Home Becomes Self-Supporting

Wayward Boys and Girls at Smithsonia Make Money for County While There and Are Treated in Such Manner That They Hate to Leave

By G. E. SNELLGROVE

WAYWARD boys and girls in Bibb county, who prior to 1925 cost the county approximately $10,000 annually, are now engaged in work that is replacing funds formerly spent for their maintenance providing everything for their upkeep, and supplying all county institutions with fresh meats, vegetables, and other farm products.

In other words, the Bibb county juvenile detention farm is a self-sustaining institution. It is a money-maker for Bibb county, and adds to the attractiveness of a 250-acre tract of land, owned by the county, and known as Smithsonia. The site was named for Judge Bridges Smith, former Mayor of Macon, who has presided over the juvenile court since its organization in 1917.

Two years ago the tract, on which Camp Wheeler was located during the World War, was an almost desolate field. The county owned the place, having purchased it from the government for $10,000, but no development further than a mere place for wayward juveniles to live, had been in progress.

The young boys and girls, picked up off the streets of the city sometimes as a loiterer, sometimes as a thief, sometimes as one whose home had been denied him, and in many instances a young Negro without a home, were sent to the "juvenile camp," as it was then called. There was nothing special to do there; just play ball, run around; and all the time remain under guard fearful that they might get into other devilment.

Throughout those eight years, from the time the juvenile court was created to the last days of 1924, the county commissioners had an idea that some service could be returned for the money spent on the farm. It had been costing annually between $5,000 and $10,000 with nothing in return—just money spent.

Today, the motorists in the direction of Smithsonia, only five miles out, will find a well-managed juvenile farm with 200 acres under cultivation, dormitories for boys and girls, a handsome bwelling house for J. A. Knox, superintendent, a number of barns, hogs, cows, horses, mules and enough supplies for another year and perhaps longer. Besides the juvenile department, the county maintains on the tract an alms house, recently constructed at a cost of $60,000; a tuberculosis sanitarium, constructed at a cost of $40,000, all being maintained with the highest degree of success.

Development of Farm

The development of the juvenile farm is to be attributed, county commissioners say, to the ingenuity of Mr. Knox, they say, is one of the most successful and experienced farmers in Bibb county.

An average of 35 children, a majority Negro boys and girls, all under 16 years of age, stay at the juvenile home throughout the year. Some will not leave its environs; others will leave when they are dismissed only for the chance to return. Judge Smith never gives a definite sentence. The farm is manitained as a sort of reform school, and with this idea in mind, Mr. Knox treats his "prisoners" as they were his own children.

Mr. Knox works his 200-acre farm with the 35 children, six mules, which he describes as "worn out mules," and modern day farming impliments furnished him by the commissioners. On his farm he has 20 cows, milking all the time an average of 14, and 150 hogs.

During the year just closed—the court functions from December to December—Mr. Knox's report shows that he has gathered 4,000 bushels of corn; 600 bushels of oats; 200 bushels of wheat; 800 bushels of peas; 1,500 bushels of sweet potatoes; six barrels of sorghum syrup; five barrels of sugar cane syrup, and 3,000 bales of hay.

Fine Dairy

Besides this, the farm has produced all the vegetables used on the place, and in some other county institutions.

The county maintains on the place a truck which hauls the slops from the county jail and the county convict camp, which have heretofore been sold for a song. During the last year the slops, with the under grade products of the farm, have been fed to the hogs at the institution, resulting in the sale of 5,114 pounds of pork to the various other county institutions, including the jail, the convict camp, the alms house, etc. Mr. Knox gets credit for this sale, turning the money into the county treasury.

The dairy maintained by Mr. Knox and his juvenile workers has furnished 9,125 gallons of milk to the various other county institutions during the last year. Altogether, Mr. Knox reports, there has been furnished to other institutions of the county approximately $7,500 worth of produce. None of these estimates includes produce raised on the farm and used for the detention home.

Approximately 3,000 pounds of tomatoes have been canned from the 1927 crop.

If there were no detention home, it is pointed out, these boys and girls would have to be kept in jail. That expense is saved, besides it releaves a general complaint, always existant, that the boys and girls are kept in company with criminals.

Juvenile Delinquency - 1927

Illinois.

SOCIAL WORKERS HOLD MEET AT WAUKEGAN

The second annual Seminar will be conducted by the Social Service Round Table, an organization composed of social workers of the South Side, at the Bowen Country Club, Waukegan, September 23, 24 and 25 according to an announcement by Miss Zelma Watson, president of the club. Among the speakers are E. Franklin Frazier, formerly Director of the Atlanta School of Social Work and at present research assistant at the University of Chicago, Rev. Charles Burton and Mrs. Edith Sampson of the Juvenile Court and Miss Thyra Edwards of the Juvenile Courts of Gary, Indiana.

Mr. Frazier will be recalled to Whip readers as the author of the Pathology of Race Prejudice, which appeared in the June issue of the Forum, and which so aroused the ire of the Caucasians of the entire south that his life was threatened. In addition to the speaking program and discussions there will be swimming, hiking, dancing and other forms of recreation.

Juvenile Delinquency - 1927

Mississippi.

Jackson, Miss., News

JUL 3 - 1927

Negro Federation Buys Ground For Delinquent Home

For more than five years the Mississippi State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs has had one objective, the establishment of a home for delinquent negro boys and girls. On June 16th, the organization was able to make the first step in this direction by purchasing a plat of land, approximately 140 acres, near Clinton.

This property is the Mt. Herman Seminary, which has been used for the education of negro youths for almost a half century.

This bit of news is given the public with much gratitude on the part of the Federtion, Inc. The organization is going forward with plans for complying with state regulations and raising funds to complete the payment for this valuable property. Within a short while all interested friends will be given an opportunity to assist the Federation, Inc., in its efforts.

ten miles of Jackson, and reached from that point by a paved road, practically all the way. It is an ideal site for a reform school, such as is is the plan to operate. The buildings need repairing, but can be used at once for dormitories, classrooms and workshops. It is suitable for farming, truck-gardening, and poultry raising.

Nowhere in the whole state of Mississippi is there a single institution where a colored child who commits crime may be sent to reform. No matter how young, they must be placed among hardwood criminals, and usually learn more of crime than they already know.

The Mississippi State Federation of Women's clubs is a chartered organization and has met the state requirements and will be ready to operate such a home as soon as the necessary funds are in hand.

Help is wanted by speaking of this project from pulpits, by taking up a collection, or by personal donation, before October 14, the date set for a special drive.

Send money or write for further information to M. F. Rowan, financial secretary, Alcorn college, Alcorn, Miss. Signed:

E. B. Miller, Yazoo City, president; J. J. Wade-Foster, Alcorn, chairman of board; M. M. Hubert, Jackson, secretary; L. C. Jefferson, treasurer.

Jackson, Miss., Ledger

SEP 11 1927

DELINQUENT HOME FOR COLORED TOTS

Women of Race Making Every Effort to Have Institution Estableshed

The colored women of Mississippi, through the Mississippi State Federation of Colored Women's clubs, are earnestly calling upon the ministers throughout the state, regardless of color, creed, or denomination, to assist them in paying for a home for delinquents which they have purchased near Clinton. This was formerly Mt. Herman seminary, and contains 164 acres of land within

Juvenile Delinquency - 1927

Missouri.

BALTIMORE, OHIO BARES HUGE TOLL OF DELIQUENCY

1,288 Children Face Juvenile Court In Year Of 1926, Jurist's Report Shows

BALTIMORE, Md., April 13.—In a report of the work of the Juvenile Court during 1926, made public by Judge T. J. C. Williams, it is shown that 1,288 colored children were brought before that court during the past year. This court, which was created in 1902, the report shows, was one of the first courts in the world to be devoted exclusively to cases where children were offenders. The primary purpose of its creation was to prevent the children from having to come in contact with the adult and more hardened offenders.

Prior to this time many very young children were sentenced to the city jail. Records show children as young as nine being so committed. The object of the court, says Judge Williams, is to give children guidance rather than treat them as criminals.

Disorderly conduct and truancy are the chief offenses on which the children were arraigned. On the first charge 209 boys were tried and on the latter, 109. Only 15 girls were brought in for disorder and but two for truancy. Larceny also played a great part with 267 for boys and 47 for girls.

Another charge in which there was a large number, but was not the fault of the child in many cases, was that of being a minor without proper care. 161 boys were arrested on this charge and 113 girls. 96 boys were tried on burglary charges.

Eleven Dangerous Age

Eleven years of age seems to be the age at which boys get into most mischief, if the age reports of juvenile delinquents is to be depended upon. Of the 915 boys tried for various offenses, 160 gave the age of eleven, 140, fourteen and 134, thirteen; the others were ranging from one to 18 years.

Fourteen seemed the age at which girls go wrong. The reports on religion show that of the total given, 401 were Baptist, and 328 were Methodist, 98 were Roman Catholic and one was a Holy Roller. 285 boys tried, were placed on probation to Probation Officer George Ralph. 158 were committed to institutions and 493 were dismissed. Of this number 62 were committed to the House of Reformation, at Cheltenham and 78 were placed in the Parental Home at Catonsville.

Juvenile Delinquency-1927

New York.

Local Ministers Request Woman Probation Officer for West Side Colored Children

During the past week a committee of local ministers, headed by the Rev. Dr. J. H. Ashby, met with County Prosecutor J. J. Quinn of Monmouth County requesting the appointment of a probation officer for the West Side. The committee included the Rev. Dr. O. J. Remsen, E. [illegible] Crawly, Charles J. Walker, and Rev. J. H. Ashby as spokesman. The committee recommended the appointment of Mrs. Montgomery Jones for the office as one competent and who has for years labored in the civic interest of the people and the children of the West Side. While no word is as yet given as to her appointment it is generally felt by the citizens at the Park that the appointment of Mrs. Jones will be given consideration by Prosecutor Quinn. There is no doubt that the need of a woman probation officer is urgent, owing to the growing waywardness among the young people at the Shore.

N. Y. TIMES

SEP 25 1927

NEGRO CHILDREN OF HARLEM ARE FOUND TO BE NEGLECTED

Social Survey Describes the Difficulties Under Which Many of Them Live

THE glitter of Harlem's principal thoroughfares does not represent the true state of the interior of New York's "black belt," according to a study of delinquent and neglected negro children made recently by the Joint Committee on Negro Child Study.

The findings and recommendations of the committee are based on an intensive seven months' investigation of the home life of youthful negro defendants brought into the New York Children's Court. One reason for the survey was a desire to interest citizens of both races in the imperative need of opportunities for the negro adolescent.

Children Neglected.

There are now more than 200,000 of the colored race in New York. In the last ten years, through migrations from the South, the negro population of New York has increased, it is said, at a rate nearly four times as great as the increase in general population.

This tide has brought with it a neglect of little children. To pay the high rents of Harlem, the earning ability of the father is often not sufficient and the mother must aid. The result is that the younger generation lacks both home guidance and a place in which to play. With both parents away from home until late in the day there results in the life of the child an abolition of restraint; the creation of an environment in which immorality, juvenile delinquency and similar evils breed quickly.

The number of negro juvenile delinquents has been increasing year by year. The percentage of negro boys and girls arraigned in the Children's Court virtually doubled in the six-year period from 1919 to 1925. Some 575 negro children and 13,052 white children were brought before the court in 1919, the negroes representing 4.2 per cent. of the total. In 1925 there were 890 negro children and 10,602 white children before the court, the negroes then forming 8 per cent. of the total, or almost three times the relative percentage of the general negro population of the city.

The situation is complicated by the somewhat isolated character of the negro population and by the special problems they have to face. The provision of preventive and correctional facilities for children in the city is held to be inadequate, and for negro children particularly distressing because certain agencies and institutions make no provision for them, according to the committee.

Offenses and Remedies.

Much, it is urged, could be done to cut down the amount of delinquency. Proper social influence is advocated. The committee calls attention to the nature of the offenses for which negro children are usually brought to the Children's Court. Whereas the most common charge against white boys is theft, that against negro boys is disorderly conduct. The offense second in importance among negro boys is desertion of home, whereas among white boys it is burglary. In approximately 85 per cent. of the negro girl delinquency cases the charge is "ungovernable and wayward," or desertion of home. Incidentally, negro boys brought into court for delinquency outnumber girls three to one. And of fifty cases picked at random by the committee only one child was found to have had any contact with organized recreation.

Recommendations made by the Joint Committee on Negro Child Study include more municipal facilities for recreation, and, as a beginning, endorsement of a site for a playground at 139th Street and Fifth Avenue. Supervision of play activities at all times during the year is suggested, to supplement the opening of school yards after school hours and Saturdays during the Summer months. Neighborhood centres in congested districts are also advocated as a means of keeping family units together.

Juvenile Delinquency - 1927

North Carolina.

Herald
Smithfield - N C
FEB 4

Another measure pending in the legislature in which the women's organizations of the State are particularly interested is that asking the State to take over the institution for delinquent colored girls at Efland, Orange County. Negro club women started this institution on a 142 acre farm which was purchased at around $20,000. They are willing to turn this property over to the state if the State will assume its maintenance and pay off a $7,000 mortgage. There is no place to which delinquent colored girls may be sent, and there seems to be a definite need of such an institution.

GREENSBORO, N. C., Record,

AUG 2 1927

NEGRO WELFARE WORKER QUITS

Watson Law Gives Up Work After Serving His Race in Greensboro For 13 Years

Because he would be unable to support his family on the salary allowed for the negro welfare worker of the city, Watson Law, for 13 years in charge of this work among his race, resigned his position Tuesday morning. The resignation was submitted to city council, the juvenile commission and W. M. York, judge of the juvenile court.

The resignation of Law ends the official service of the oldest negro welfare worker of the state, when length of service is considered. He was appointed to the post by Judge Brown and for a long time served without remuneration. Always devoted to the members of his race and anxious to serve them in every way possible, Law served for six years without any salary. For sometime after that period he was paid $10 a month and later this was increased to $50 a month, which he has gotten for the last two years. This, however, was for part time work but the holder of the post from now on will have to be a full-time worker at $100 a month. It was for this reason that Law resigned.

Watson Law's work while connected with the welfare department in an official capacity constitutes a notable record. It was he who, through a number of years, struggled almost single-handed to care for the problems of negro children of the city. The records show that between 800 and 900 negro boys and girls have been saved from the downward path by his intervention and supervision. He stated Tuesday that, though he will no longer draw a salary for his work or have an official connection, he will be ready at all times to do everything in his power to help the children of his race.

Under the new regulations for negro welfare work, Law would have been required to give his full time to the work and the expense of operating his automobile while doing the work would have to be borne by him. The welfare work among the negro children was combined with the truancy work and this latter task would have necessitated closely checking the 6,000 children of the city every day.

"The work among negroes in the city is not as well organized as that among the white," he stated Tuesday in discussing the reasons for his resigning. "The white people have many organizations which are always functioning and the white children have servants and nurses to help look after them. The negro children do not have this close supervision and this means that a much heavier work falls on the juvenile and truancy worker who conscientiously performs the duties required.

"I would not have the facilities or the time to do all the work outlined for the position. The truancy officer for the negroes was kept busy all the time last year attending to this work alone and now the juvenile work is added. I could not take the position and promise to carry out the work when I know in advance of the handicaps which would be around me. It would be like trying to make brick without straw.

"I am sorry to have to give up the work. I am devoted to it and always will respond to every call upon me and will aid in every way possible to better the conditions of the children whose circumstances I have studied."

GREENSBORO
N. C.

ISSUE OF

LAW RESIGNS

Watson Law has retired as negro probation officer of the city of Greensboro. For thirteen years he gave his services, with little remuneration, towards helping the children of his race to keep on the "straight and narrow" path. Records show that he has handled between 800 and 900 cases and, with a few exceptions, the children he has looked after are good citizens.

We often are reminded of a "race" problem. In some parts of the country riots occur and there is much ill feeling between white people and negroes. Guilford county is fortunate in having the vast majority of its white and negro population with intelligence enough to look up the so-called "race" problem with clear vision. There is no discord and we have a feeling that there will never be any.

The white people feel kindly towards the negro and the negro feels kindly towards the whites. Such work as has been Watson Law's for the past thirteen years has done much in bringing about the race situation in Guilford.

While Law retires from active work with the welfare commission, as he is unable to give the time that the commission requires, we feel that he and his friends will continue their good work.

High Point, N. C. Enterprise

AUG 14 192?

TRAINING SCHOOL FOR NEGROES NOW DOING GREAT WORK

Welfare Official Visits School and Is Highly Pleased With Work Being Done—Little Negro Boys Showing Improvement

RALEIGH, Aug. 13.—"The Morrison Training school at Hoffman is doing a splendid piece of constructive work with the negro boys the state is sending there for training," says Mrs. Kate Burr Johnson, commissioner of public welfare, who has watched the development of the school with great interest. She has just returned from a visit to the school and is enthusiastic over the many improvements and the fine spirits which the staff and the students show.

Nearly 80 boys, committed by the juvenile court, are being trained for citizenship there, under the direction of Rev. L. L. Boyd, a graduate of Tuskegee who has been the institution's only head during its short life of little more than two years.

"I don't want my boy to go to no 'deformatory'," wailed an old negro woman who had so neglected her boy that he had gotten into serious trouble. "A de-formatory ain't no place for him," she stormed.

It was then that the superintendent made a classic retort.

"Your home is the 'de-formatory.' At Morrison we'll have to do some straightening out," he told her.

And they straighten the boys out by letting them grow into individuals who have been given the opportunity to lead decent, well-ordered, active lives and been shown a way of life by which they may earn a livelihood. They never give up hope that even the worst boy may see the light and benefit from the training. Each boy is a real person to the staff, and they work with him as carefully as a kind parent would work with his child.

The boys lead busy lives. Contracts have been recently let for two new buildings, an administration building and a school building, to supplement the main building which can then be used as a dormitory. Some of the boys have been detailed to help the carpenters and bricklayers. Others do kitchen police duty and have developed into excellent cooks, who have put up many quarts of the surplus vegetables and fruits this summer. Some of them do the laundry work. Over 108 acres are cleared and the boys have in cultivation 40 acres of corn, 15 acres of cotton, three in sorghum and 10 in watermelons. The grounds of the institution have been much improved by the boys and beds of fine zinnias are proof of the handiwork of some gardners. Then there are cows, mules, hogs and chickens to be tended and each boy his his special job.

Yet with all their activities, the boys attend school from September to June, 22 hours a week for the school term of eight months. The minimum requirement for the state department of education is fully met. The teachers are a fine group and are graduates of such institutions as Hampton, Tuskegee and Slater.

The place is spotlessly clean. It is one of the student government rules that there shall be no defacement of state property, and the officers, elected by the boys, jealously look after this and other rules. Their honor system imposes a definite responsibility upon each boy and as fast as character and self-control are developed those making highest rank are 'given credits and promotion.

Many of the boys come to the school undernourished and discouraged due to past experiences. With wholesome food, proper rest, sufficient exercise and proper health habits, sickness has been kept down to the point of $46.50 for the past year.

Music has played a great part in the scheme of things, says Professor Boyd. The boys sing under any provocation, at work or at play. He has trained them a bit and last year took the "Singing Class" to Rockingham, Hoffman and several other places. Some of the bays are anxious to have a chance to play in a band and the public welfare chairman of the State Federation of Women's clubs, Mrs. A. C. Avery, Jr., of Morganton, is undertaking to secure instruments as a special project.

School Started In 1921

The State Board of Charities and Public Welfare is charged by law with the duty of supervising and inspecting the various State institutions for the dependent, neglected and delinquent. For a number of years the board urged the establishment of a training school for negro boys and some of the ideas gained during a trip of inspection made by Mrs. Johnson through some of the best child-caring institutions in the country, were incorporated into the bill requiring the establishment of the Morrison Training School. In 1921, Judge L. R. Varser, member of the senate, introduce the bill and put it through the legislature. W. N. Everett, secretary of state, was instrumental in getting the bill passed. In 1923 further appropriations were made and active work on the main building was started in 1924. The school opened early in 1925.

Negro People Interested

Many years before the state took action in founding the school, a group of prominent negro people became so convinced of its need, that they went so far as to buy a piece of land for the purpose in Mecklenburg county, under the leadership of Thad Tate, of Charlotte, who is now a member of the board of trustees. They still have the land, and as soon as it can be sold, they propose to turn over the money to the institution and build a chapel for the school.

Board of Trustees

The board of trustees is composed of W. L. Parsons, chairman, B. F. Reynolds, of Rockingham, T. E. Coxe, of Wadesboro, R. D. Phillips of Laurinburg, W. C. Massey, of Waxhaw, T. L. Tate of Charlotte and C. C. Spaulding, of Durham.

Parole Officer Needed

At Morrison the state is investing in a group of its citizens who, through neglect of others, largely, are in danger of becoming liabilities to the state. At Morrirson they are caught regular habits and iven a vision of life's possibilities. It is just as important that they are properly placed after they leave the school as it is to see that the school does good work. Every effort is made to see that the paroled boys have attention, but because of lack of time and funds these efforts are necessarily spasmodic.

Other Problems

The experiences of the school have emphasized the crying need in North Carolina for some facilities for the negro feeble-minded. Many a boy has been committed to the school as a "bad boy" when in reality he was definitely a mental defective incapable of adjustment to normal circumstances. The school is not equipped to care for such cases and it is felt that some provisions must be made soon to care for such groups. Through Morrison Training School and an institution for negro feeble-minded the state could far more effectively do away with the danger of repeating recent outrages which are a blot on North Carolina. To take a young child who has shown delinquent tendencies and turn him into an asset to the state, an individual ready and eager to take responsibilties upon himself, is one of the highest duties of what we term a "Christian State."

Proof of the Pudding

The school is committed to the task of making citizens rather than merely exerting punitive repression. Its special work is with human material that demands sympathetic spirits and trained minds and hands that will guide them into paths of usefulness within the range of their varied possibilities. It is one place which develops such a strong hold on the boys that they are often unwilling to leave when they are told they may be placed on parole. In one town in North Carolina there is a man who has a Morrison boy as a mechanic. He pays him between $20 and $25 a week, and declares that he wouldn't change him for any other mechanic he could find.

Not a "De-Formatory"

So Morrison Training School is neither a "de-formatory", nor a "reformatory," if the latter means repression, and punishment. It is just a place where a group of state employees are assuming full responsibiliay for training the boys so that they may with ease meet the exacting requirements of human society, mentally, morally, spiritually and industrially. The fact of their presence in the school seems to create in them a spirit of honesty, justice, righteousness and industry. It is a place of which the citizens of North Carolina may be proud.

Statesville Landmark

Juvenile Delinquency - 1927 South carolina.

This Clipping From
SPARTANBURG, S. C.
SEP 9 1927

NEGRO CHILDREN FIND IT IS EASY TO LAND HOMES

Probation Officer Finds White Children in Less Demand.

NUMBER IS GREATER, TOO

Negro children are more easily given away than those of the white race.

At least that is the observation of Miss Octavia Walden, probation officer of Spartanburg county.

When Miss Walden makes it known that she has a negro child —either boy or girl—whom she wishes to place in a home she is usually greeted with plenty of responses.

But little white girls, and especially boys of the Caucasian persuasion are not readily taken up.

There may be several reasons for this; one, rather apparent, is that the supply of white children is much greater than that of negroes. Another advanced is that people want negroes for servants; adopters of white children sometimes take them to rear as though they were their own.

Juvenile Delinquency - 1927

Tennessee.

A NEEDED INSTITUTION

Tennessee is without an institution that would provide for the training of delinquent colored girls, and because of such a condition, the courts of every section of the state face a serious problem in handling the cases of incorrigible girls who are haled before them, many of whom are guilty of serious violations of the law. There is a school located in Davidson county that has for its purpose the training of this class of girls, but it is thoroughtly inadequate because of the limited equipment. Mrs. Pierce, the superintendent, is rendering fine service in view of what littl she has to work with. East Tennessee News 3-10-27

The states of Alabama and Texas have just made appropriations for establishment of modenr training schools for delinquent colored girls, and certainly Tennessee would serve the interests of her citizenship much more effectively if our legislature would make an appropriation that would enlarge the school at Nashville so as to make provisions for the unfortunate girls that fall into the hands of the law.

KNOX COUNTY'S INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Knox county's Negro citizenship views with favor a part of the recommendation offered the county court by Miss Leah Fletcher, superintendent of the Industrial school, as concerns making provisions for Negro boys ad girls, and they positively do not agree with another part. Her suggestion relative to the purchase of a farm for the establishment of an industrial school for Negroes is thoroughly acceptable to the Negroes, and is just what has been hoped for, in view of the very unsatisfactory state of affairs that has existed at this very important institution for many years, as concerns the Negro youths. It would have been more acceptable if Miss Fletcher had suggested that provision for the keeping of colored girls, who fall into the hands of the courts, might be made at such a proposed institution.

News - 4-7-27

It will be recalled that the county court, several years ago, spent money for the erection of a building for the care of such girls. Such an appropriation was made due to the efforts of Judge Robert P. Williams, at present municipal judge, who was then a member of the county court.

It appears from the outside that the efficiency of the people in charge of this institution for the keeping of incorrigibles of both races, as concerns their ability as disciplinarians, is seriously questioned by Miss Fletcher, when she expresses fear of racial intermingling and a threatened clash of the races. The Knox County Industrial School is one of the county's oldest institutions, and the expression of such fears is made in this instance for the first time to the knowledge of the writer. A recent visit to the state's branch penal institution at Brushy Mountain showed more than five hundred white and colored men continuously thrown together on the grounds of that institution, but the guards there seemed to have affairs in hand to the extent that they have never had a racial clash, nor have they expressed fear of having one.

That part of Miss Fletcher's recommendation which does not nearly meet the approval of the Negro citizenship of the county, even the "best element", notwithstanding the endorsement given by Preacher Crawford, is that suggesting the use of the Colored Orphanage for Negro girls. The orphanage is altogether a different kind of institution, and is serving its purpose. To convert it into a reformatory for incorrigible girls will deprive the many little fellows who are sent there of a home, and certainly such will not be tolerated.

Further, it is hoped that the county court will place no significance on the endorsement and proffer of the orphanage home as made by the preacher who is employed as superintendent there. He is of that stripe, the type of which is found among the local Negro racial group in far too many instances, that goes off half-cocked on important matters, in expressing hurried judgement and giving endorsement, when their judgement and endorsement are both unwise and unpopular. Crawford should have at least consulted the board in charge of the orphanage before giving his endorsement to the matter, even if he didn't have enough foresight to hear expressions from other local interested citizens.

It is hoped that the county will provide a separate institution, under the superintendency of efficient, sympathetic and interested persons who will exhibit the proper iterest in their charges. And such an institution should provide for both boys and girls.

Juvenile Delinquency - 1927

Texas.

ALL THAT IS NEEDED IS AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE DELINQUENT GIRLS TRAINING SCHOOL

Although the recent Legislature passed the bill creating a home for, delinquent Negro girls, Governor Moody failed to sign it and the result now is that an institution has been created with no appropriation to make it a reality. Unless some provision is made for it at the coming called session, there is much liklihood that all of the fine efforts exerted in behalf of the measure by Congressmen and The Interracial Committee which sponsored it will be lost. The bill provided for the home, an advisory committee of five women to be nominated by The Board of Control and approved by the Governor, for the employment of a trained Negro social worker as Superintendent, for vocational training for the inmates and for training in ordinary health and sanitation. The Board of Control has already nominated the advisory committee and is now preparing the budget to be submitted to The Appropriations and Finance Committee.

Texas must not be allowed to lose this fine beginning on a piece of constructive work whose value to the community in a social and civic way can be determined only as the measure passes with its full appropriations and the institution becomes a realty. There is no stretch of the imagination which can conjure up fully the truly serviceable place in the state which such a home for delinquent girls, under the restrictions and provisions of the bill, would be. But this will not be and it cannot be unless all of those interested in the work of the Appropriations Committee are favorably inclined toward consideration of the budget which will be submitted for it. Hon. Cluade Teer of Granger is the chairman of this committee.

This committee must be petitioned well and often. Its individual members must be approached and urged to help this constructive bit of legislation for the sake of the state itself. They must be caused to see the necessity of taking time to consider the fact that no provision has been made for teen aged Negro delinquent girls and that there is no better way in which to show their interest in the state which they serve than by helping to bring into existence an institution dedicated to the uplift of the society of that state. And it is the duty of every citizen to interest himself in interesting any of these committee members whom he may know or have access to in helping this measure to success.

A HOME FOR DELINQUENT NEGRO GIRLS IN TEXAS

Senator Hall of Houston has earned the everlasting gratitude of the State of Texas and the present Legislature, at least as far as this particular bill is concerned, is entitled to much credit for sensing social needs, because of the introduction and passage of the bill creating a state home for delinquent Negro girls between the ages of seven and eighteen. It is seldom mentioned but for many years it has been literally true that there was provision made in but one county of this state for the care of Negro girls of that age who had committed minor offenses.

In this case the unusual happened. The bill is so framed as to provide for the employment of a trained Negro social worker as superintendent of the home. An immediate appropriation of $100,000 for the purchase of grounds and equipment was also passed. The governing board of the institution is to be composed of five women. There are the unusual features of the bill and they may be considered as particularly so in the light of the conduct of the institutions of the state to which Negroes are usually consigned.

The social value to Texas of this act of the Legislature cannot be over estimated. When the number of young girls from all over the state who commit minor acts is considered and it is realized that such provision gives ample opportunity for their care and decent training by one who can feel the gravity of the situation, it can be realized that the creation of this home constitutes a more than ordinary step in the creation of equal social opportunities for Negro girls whose fate, under other circumstances would have been exceedingly doubtful. The Negroes of Texas should take great pride in the knowledge that there is coming a consciousness of the needs of the state to such an extent that measures like this which guarantee definite help in large social ways, can be passed. It is probable that realization of the need for this measure arose from the efforts of The State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs. It is to be remembered that for several years that organization has been engaged in raising funds for such an institution and has been urging that the State take notice of the need for such an institution. Now this organization can with more freedom turn its attention to other matters of as grave importance. The Negro boys of the state are in as bad a condition, and the lack of facilities for their care constitutes as great a need of a training school as did that of Negro girls. A home for them should by no means be out of the question.

TEXAS LEGISLATURE RECOMMENDS ESTABLISHMENT OF NEGRO ELEEMOSYNARY INSTITUTION

$100,000 Appropriation Bill For Home For Delinquent Negro Submitted to Governor Dan Moody

(Pacific Coast News Bureau) — AUSTIN, Tex., May 5—Advocating the additional expenditure of $100,000 for the conversion of the Eastham State farm into an institution for the confinement of delinquent Negro boys and girls of Texas, the sub-committee of the house committed on elleemosynary institutions recently recommended the proposition to Gov. Dan Moody for submission at the special session of the State Legislature.

FAVORED BY BOARD OF CONTROL

Dr. H. H. Harrington, chairman of the State Board of Control, favorss the proposition which provides for the expenditure of $100,000 in buildings for housing Negro girls and the conversion of the $250,000 of improvements in buildings now on the farm into a home for Negro boys.

The last legislature passed a bill authorizing the creation of a home for delinquent Negro girls but omitted to make an appropriation for construction of the home.

250 BOYS AT GATESVILLE

At present 250 delinquent Negro boys are confined in the state training school at Gatesville and past efforts to find other quarters for them have been unsuccessful. This institution was originally designed for white delinquent boys only, but Negroes were admitted, with the result that there are 900 inmates in the schools which exceeds its capacity.

The sub-committee of the house committee on eleemosynary institutions consosts of representatives Grady Woodruff, Paradise; T. . Remfro, Mills county and C. T. Sheets, Franklin.

TIMES

Wichita Falls

MAY 11 1927

TO INCLUDE APPROPRIATION DELINQUENT NEGRO GIRLS

AUSTIN, May 11. (AP)—The house appropriations committee has agreed to include in its eleemosynary appropriation bill a $50,000 item to provide a state home for criminally delinquent negro girls authorized in a bill passed at the regular session of the legislature.

Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames of Georgetown representing the Texas commission on inter-racial relations appealed to the committee Monday for inclusion of the item, calling attention to the fact that the senate had allowed it.

AMERICAN

Austin Tex

APR 27 1927

NEGRO SCHOOL FUND ASKED

Control Board Recommends Sum of $120,000.

Biennial appropriations totaling $120,000 for the establishment and maintenance of a school for delinquent negro girls Wednesday

was recommended by the state board of control to the house and senate finance committees in joint session here.

It requested for 1927, $5,000 for a site; $50,000 for erection of a combined administration building and dormitory; $9,000 for equipment; $10,000 for instructors' salaries; $19,000 for maintenance and support provided expenditures be under direction of the board; $1,000 traveling expenses, also to be expended under direction of the board.

For 1928: $10,000 for instructors' salaries; $19,000 for maintenance and support, $1,000 for traveling expenses.

Establishment of the proposed institution was provided in a bill by Senator J. W. Hall of Houston, passed by the 40th legislature.

HOME FOR DELINQUENT GIRLS MAY BE LOST IF APPROPRIATIONS NOT MADE AT THIS SESSION

The home for delinquent Negro girls which was ordered established in the bill passed by the recent legislature failed to get the signature of Governor Moody and there is liklihood of the loss of the measures unless there is an appropriation made for its establishment at the called session according to advices coming from the office of The Interracial Committee of Texas.

The fate of the measure rents with the Finance Committee of the Senate and the law is a dead letter unless money is obtained to vitalize the act. The initial appropriation logically should be made by the Legislature which authorized the creation of the school but its failure to do this makes it necessary that the Appropriations Committee provide for it.

Heads of the Interracial Committee are urging that every citizen make an appeal to his Congressman

SENATE KILLS PLAN TO GIVE GIRLS SCHOOL

Texas Body Against $50,000 Appropriation For Colored Institution

AUSTIN, Tex., June 1 — (Special) Charges of racial prejudices were leveled by Senator Love Friday at a group of Senators who signed a resolution asking the free conference committee on the eleemosynary bill to eliminate a $50,000 appropriation which would be used in the construction of a building to house delinquent colored girls.

Resigns From Committee

With the adoption of this resolution by the senate by a vote of 12 to 9, Senator Hall of Houston tendered his resignation as a member of the free conference committee and Senator Reid of Canyon was appointed in his place by Lieutenant Governor Barry Miller, presiding officer of the senate.

Hall is the author of the bill providing for the construction of a building in which delinquent Negro girls convicted of a criminal offense could be placed.

"I never heard of a sensible group of people misunderstanding and misrepresenting to such an extent a beneficial piece of legislation as this is," Hall said before the vote was taken.

Says School More Needed

Signers of the resolution which included Senators Hardin, Miller, Moore, Woodward, Fairchild, Greer, Floyd, Parr, Stuart, Russek, Lewis and Pollard replied to accusations made by Love.

Pollard said he was opposed to the appropriation of $50,000 because a building at the state penitentiary could be provided for delinquent colored girls.

Let's build the Negroes school houses instead of jails. I would favor the erection of a $50,000 building at Prairie View College for Negroes," declared Pollard. He was joined by Senator Margie Neal, only woman member of the senate.

Backs Measure

Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames, director of the Texas committee on interracial relations argued in favor of the Hall bill and pointed out that Texas now has no place for wayward colored girls. The Federated Colored Women's Clubs of Texas already has bought a $5500 tract of land near San Antonio for a site for a home.

The Senate committee recommended $50,000 for the school. The board of control had recommended $120,000.

Texas Legislature Provides Industrial School

$100,000 Appropriation Bill For Home For Delinquent Negroes Submitted to Gov. Dan Moody.

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